



# Lake Mead National Recreation Area Environmental Education

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## Classroom Programs



Are you looking for a special program for your classroom this year? Invite a park ranger to your school and learn about the exciting natural and cultural history of the Mojave Desert.

All programs support the Clark County School District curriculum essentials framework for first through fifth grades. They include hands-on activities and inquiry-based learning. Presentations are forty-five minutes to one hour in length.

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### ANIMALS AMONG US

#### Grade 1

Although desert animals share the same environment, they each survive in different ways. Students will compare similarities and differences among some mammals, reptiles, and birds of the Mojave Desert.



### CACTUS CLUES

#### Grade 1

What makes a cactus so different from other desert plants? Students will explore this question by comparing cactus characteristics. They will have a better understanding of just how well adapted a cactus is to living in the Mojave Desert.



### SO WHAT'S BUGGING YOU?

#### Grade 2

Although you might be "bugged" by bugs, their brief life cycles are fascinating to observe and critical to our survival. Students will compare characteristics of several bugs common to the Mojave Desert and the role they play in our environment.

### ANIMALS OF THE NIGHT

#### Grade 2

Many Mojave Desert animals are active at night. Have you ever wondered why? Students will compare some common nocturnal animals by their characteristics and describe their special adaptations for living in the desert.

## **WEATHER WISE**

**Grade 3**

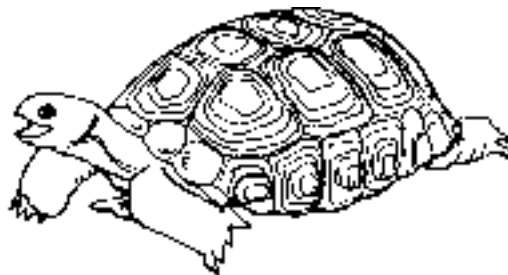
There are many contributing factors that create the weather we experience in the Mojave Desert. Students will measure and record weather conditions (temperature, wind speed and humidity) to gain a better understanding of conditions that create our desert environment.



## **TORTOISE TRACKS**

**Grade 3**

Adaptation is the secret to the desert tortoise's survival. Students will compare tortoise specimens and learn about their adaptations. Students will also explore ways that they can protect this "threatened" species.



## **KEYED INTO PLANTS**

**Grade 4**

By comparing differences and similarities in desert flora students will discover the secret to using a plant key. With the help of a ranger they will "key out" cacti common to Lake Mead NRA, then on their own "key out" a variety of other common plants.

## **PUZZLE PIECES OF THE PAST**

**Grade 4**

Find clues and create an image of the past! Students will compare artifacts and participate in activities that will move them toward a better understanding of the importance of our archeological resources.

## **LANDFORMS IN MOTION**

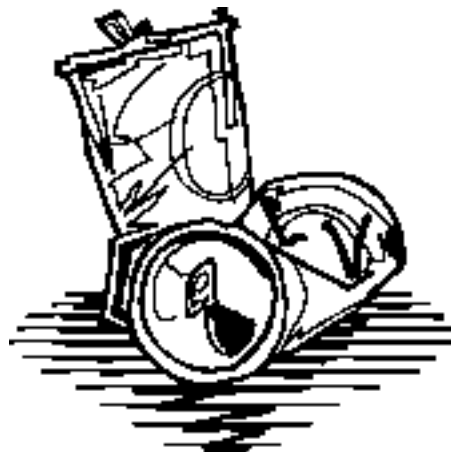
**Grade 5**

Using rocks, geologic maps and satellite images, students will explore the formation of the Hamblin-Cleopatra volcano complex at Lake Mead NRA to discover how landforms are dynamic and change in response to movement in the earth's crust.

## **DON'T BE TRASHY!**

**Grade 5**

Are you bothered by trash? Students will compare the differences between reducing, reusing, and recycling and participate in problem solving discussions regarding trash.



# **Reservations**

**Reservations are required through our lottery system. Nomination deadline is 9/8/00.**

Programs are offered year-round beginning in mid-October.

Contact your grade level chair for information or call Lake Mead Environmental Education at (702) 293-8716 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.